

Appln No.
Amdt. Dated: August 03, 2006
Response to Office Action of June 13, 2006

6

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of June 13, 2006 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the following Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the claimed method enables selection of the secret information without revealing the secret information itself, and that this is done by outputting the values indicative of the attributes of the secret information from the first entity to the second entity without outputting the secret information itself. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in the sections entitled "7 Key and key related data", "8 Operating and state data" and "9 Session data" of the present specification; and dependent claims 2-21 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendments do not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding Compact Disc Submissions

It is respectfully submitted that the "computer program listing" indicated by the Examiner as being included in the present specification is not a "computer program listing" in the sense of 37 CFR 1.96(a) and therefore does not need to be submitted as an appendix on compact disc under 37 CFR 1.96(c) and 1.77(b)(5) as contended by the Examiner.

This is because, the listings provided in the present specification are clearly described as being "pseudocode" listings. One of ordinary skill in the art understands that pseudocode merely represents computer code and can not itself be compiled into an executable computer program. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudocode>, for example, which states that "pseudocode is a description of a computer programming algorithm that uses the structural conventions of programming languages, but omits detailed subroutines or language-specific syntax".

Thus, the pseudocode listings provided in the present specification do not satisfy the definition of computer program listings in 37 CFR 1.96(a), which states that a "computer program listing for the purpose of this section is defined as a printout that lists in appropriate sequence the instructions, routines, and other contents of a program for a computer. The program listing may be either in machine or machine-independent (object or source) language which will cause a computer to perform a desired procedure or task such as solve a problem, regulate the flow of work in a computer, or control or monitor events."

Regarding 35 USC 102(e) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of above-described amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-21 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Meisel et al. (US 7,035,812), for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, as clearly recited in amended independent claim 1, each QA device has secret keys used for signature generation and verification. These purposes rely on

Appln No.
Amdt. Dated: August 03, 2006
Response to Office Action of June 13, 2006

7

the keys remaining secret. Thus, each key is given a KeyId which can be read by another entity to determine the identity or label of the key without revealing the key itself (see the sections entitled "7 Key and key related data", "8 Operating and state data" and "9 Session data" of the present specification).

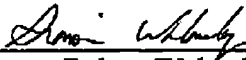
On the other hand, Meisel merely discloses a login application in which an advertiser's or administrator's user name and password are requested for authentication by an account management server, in response to which the user name and password are given and communicated the server (see col. 12, line 52- col. 13, line 26 of Meisel).

Thus, in Meisel the "secret information" itself, e.g., a password, is revealed to the requesting server during the authentication procedure, which is contrary to the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-21 dependent therefrom.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:


Simon Robert Walmsley

C/o: Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd
393 Darling Street
Balmain NSW 2041, Australia

Email: kia.silverbrook@silverbrookresearch.com
Telephone: +612 9818 6633
Facsimile: +61 2 9555 7762